

LOWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement	2
Department at a Glance	3
Organizational Chart	4
Letter from the Chief	5
2014: The Year in Review	6
2014 Highlights	6
Departmental Reorganization	7
Community Policing	8
Major Investigations	9
Grant Funding	10
Crime in the City of Lowell	11
National Incident Based Reporting System	11
Homicide	12
Rape	12
Robbery	13
Aggravated Assault	14
Vandalism	14
Burglary	15
Gang Crime	16
Domestic Violence	17
Firearm Crime	18
Drug Arrests	19
Computer-Aided Dispatch	19
Departmental Overview	20
LPD Contact Information	24
Dedication	25

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lowell Police Department is to work with the community to reduce crime, the fear of crime, and to improve the quality of life in the City of Lowell. We stress partnership, professionalism, integrity, and fairness.



DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

As of December 31, 2014:

Budgeted Sworn Strength: 236

Civilians: 102

Actual Sworn Complement: 229

Male: 208

Male: 39

Female: 21

Female: 63

Ethnic Breakdown:

Ethnic Breakdown:

African American: 5

African American: 4

Asian: 10

Asian: 6

Caucasian: 181

Caucasian: 85

Hispanic: 33

Hispanic: 7

Rank Structure

Superintendent: 1

Deputy Superintendent: 2

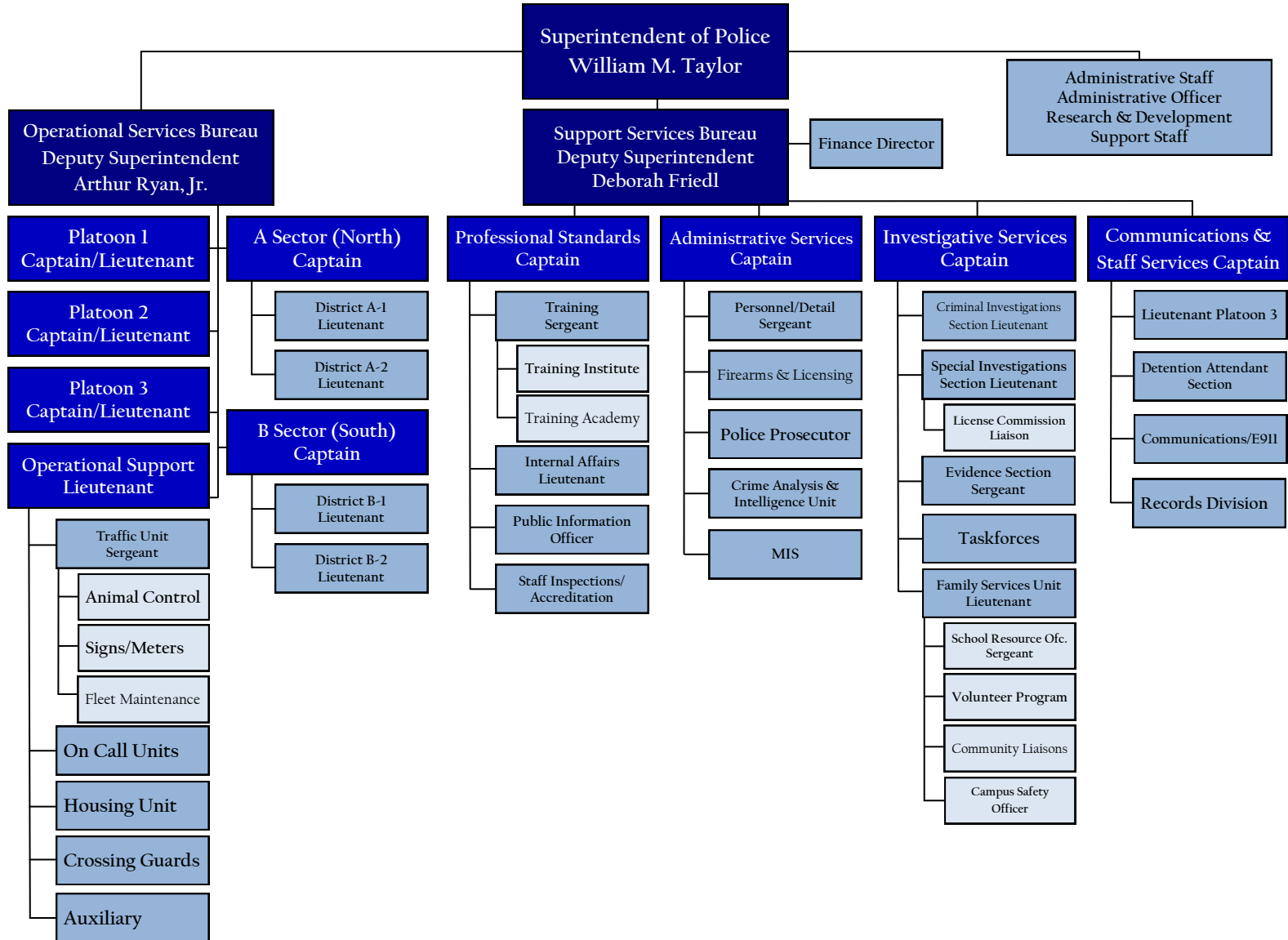
Captain: 9

Lieutenant: 13

Sergeant: 30

Patrol Officer: 174

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





William M. Taylor
Superintendent

Deborah Friedl
Deputy Superintendent

Arthur Ryan, Jr.
Deputy Superintendent

Dear City Councilors,

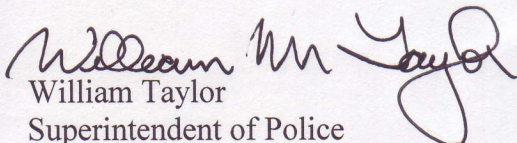
It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Lowell Police Department's (LPD) 2014 Annual Report. This report reflects that activities and accomplishments of the LPD in 2014. The men and women of the LPD continue to devote themselves to serving the community of Lowell with honor and professionalism. The department worked tirelessly in 2014 to implement innovative approaches to reduce crime and achieve the goals of the department. In 2014, the LPD achieved several successes, including a 12% overall reduction in crime.

The LPD has several notable accomplishments in 2014. The department underwent a departmental reorganization that is designed to emphasize community policing and problem solving. The City was divided into two sectors, and each sector divided into two districts. Each district has a District Response Team, consisting of experienced officers who will work directly with the community and the LPD's Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit to address the root causes of crime within their district. The reorganization will be completed in 2015, when the Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit will be decentralized, with Crime Analysts being assigned to specific districts. They will work directly with the commanding officers of their district and the District Response Teams to identify crime hot spots and trends. This will allow the LPD to tailor its response to the specific issues that are affecting each district.

The LPD also completed several major investigations in 2014. The department worked with the Massachusetts State Police, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and police departments from surrounding towns to investigate criminal activity that was not confined within Lowell's borders. These investigations led to numerous arrests and significant amounts of illegal drugs and weapons being taken off the streets.

The LPD is committed to working with City leaders and the community to improve quality of life in the City of Lowell. The department made significant progress on improving public safety in Lowell in 2014. In 2015, we plan to further increase our efforts to work directly with the community and address the root causes of crime in the City, thereby making a lasting impact on the safety of all those who visit, work, or live in Lowell. In conclusion, I would like to thank both the City Council and City Manager Murphy for your continued support throughout the past year.

Sincerely,


William Taylor
Superintendent of Police

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights of 2014

The LPD completed numerous successful projects and investigations in 2014. Accomplishments for the year included:

- 10% decrease in NIBRS Group A offenses
- 24% decrease in NIBRS Group B offenses
- 26% decrease in rapes
- 16% decrease in burglaries
- 32% decrease in theft from a motor vehicle
- 39% decrease in stolen property offenses
- 5% decrease in weapons law violations
- 23% decrease in gang crime
- 6% decrease in domestic violence assaults
- Received \$2,549,175 in state, federal and private grant funding
- Increased visibility through foot, bicycle and Segway patrols
- Hosted the 16th annual Summer Student Police Academy
- Implemented a reorganization which will help facilitate additional oversight and enhance the institutionalization of community and evidence-based policing
- Received grant funding to conduct a study to determine the effectiveness of the reorganization

Departmental Reorganization

In April 2014, the LPD completed a strategic departmental reorganization. The goals of the strategic reorganization are to reinvigorate the LPD's community policing strategy; address policy, procedures, and training within the department; and to provide additional supervision in specific areas that need attention. Priorities under the new organization of the department are to utilize increased foot, bicycle, and Segway patrols, engage and involve the community, and utilize evidence-backed strategies such as problem-oriented policing.

The reorganization divides the City into two patrol sectors, each of which is commanded by a Captain. Each sector is subdivided into two districts. Each district will have a dedicated District Response Team. The District Response Teams each consist of six officers, who report to a Lieutenant. The Teams are a major component of the LPD's reinvigorated community policing efforts. Officers on the District Response Teams conduct foot and bicycle patrols and focus on interacting with members of the community in their district. They are responsible for identifying the most pressing concerns and addressing the underlying root causes of crime in their district.

The reorganization of the LPD's patrol operations was completed in 2014. In 2015, the remainder of the reorganization will be completed. When the full reorganization is complete, each sector will have its own community precinct. The Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit will be decentralized as well, with dedicated Crime Analysts located in each precinct. The Crime Analysts will work closely with the Sector Captains and District Response Teams to identify crime trends and the underlying causes of crime. This will allow responses to be tailored to the specific issues present in each district.



Chief Taylor and several district response officers pictured with the department's new bicycles, bike uniforms, Segways, and a cruiser. District Response Teams are a vital aspect of the LPD's reorganization, which will facilitate increased communication with the community.



District Response Officers show off newly purchased bicycles and bike patrol uniforms.

Community Policing

The LPD is committed to working with the Lowell community to improve public safety. Throughout 2014, the department hosted or participated in numerous community meetings and events. Obtaining feedback on the public safety issues that most concern community members is a major priority for the LPD. The LPD strives to develop positive relationships with Lowell residents and businesses by being highly visible and accessible to the community. The LPD's 2014 reorganization was designed largely to increase the department's focus on interacting with residents and businesses and revitalize its community policing strategy.



Officer Ramirez receives the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lowell's "Star of the Quarter" award in March 2014 for his work with the youth involved in the Club's programs.



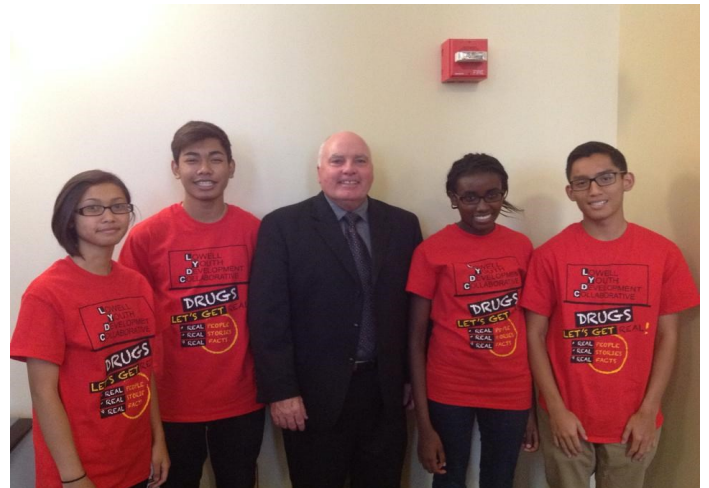
Officers conduct a sidewalk meeting with residents.



Captain Richardson participating in Coffee with a Cop



Officers at the LPD's annual Bike Safety Rodeo, which teaches kids about the importance wearing helmets and following all bike safety rules.



Chief Taylor with students who attended *Drugs: Let's Get Real*, an anti-drug event in October.

Major Investigations

The LPD successfully completed numerous major investigations in 2014. These investigations led to the seizure of illegal weapons, drugs, and large amounts of cash that had been the proceeds of illegal transactions. Several individuals responsible for serious crimes were arrested and charged.



Weapons seized by the LPD's Criminal Investigations Section along with the Massachusetts State Police

- The LPD worked with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) to apprehend a known felon, Eric Texeira, on multiple firearms charges. Texeira was in possession of a Glock semi-automatic pistol and sold several other firearms, including two revolvers and a rifle, to another individual. On November 17, 2014, Texeira pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of firearms and ammunition.
- A joint investigation with the Massachusetts State Police and ATF led to a citywide warrant sweep being executed in October. The sweep resulted in 10 arrests and the seizure of 135 grams of heroin, 40 grams of cocaine, and 2 illegal firearms.

- A joint investigation with the Dracut Police Department led to the seizure of an illegal handgun, 130 grams of heroin, and \$32,000 in cash.
- An investigation by the LPD's Special Investigation Section led to the seizure of a kilogram of cocaine and \$87,000 in cash.



The LPD seized a Kilo of cocaine and \$87,000 in cash following an investigation by the Special Investigations Section

Grant Funding

The LPD was able to secure several grants in 2014. The department uses grant funding for a variety of programs, initiatives, and partnerships. The LPD received a Shannon Community Safety Initiative for the ninth consecutive year. A large portion of the funding the LPD receives from this grant is sub-granted to a variety of community organizations such as the Career Center of Lowell, Boys and Girls Club, YWCA, Lowell Community Health Center, and United Teen Equality Center. These organizations provide numerous services for at-risk youth in Lowell, keeping them away from gangs, drugs, and crime. The LPD also uses a portion of the Shannon grant to fund extra patrol shifts that focus on gang crime hot spot areas throughout the City of Lowell.

The LPD also received a Smart Policing Initiative grant from the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance which will be used to fund an evaluation of the strategic departmental reorganization. The grant will allow the LPD to work with researchers who will study whether the reorganization is able to achieve its desired effects. Another Smart Policing grant funded the development of a leadership course for front line supervisors at the LPD and other local police departments.

The LPD and Lowell Fire Department received a grant to purchase nasal naloxone, a drug that reverses the effects of opiate overdose. The Lowell Fire Department has been carrying nasal naloxone for several years, but the LPD will begin carrying it for the first time in 2015. The Fire Department has saved numerous lives by administering naloxone to individuals who were displaying the symptoms of an opiate overdose. With the recent rise in overdose deaths across Massachusetts, the LPD determined it would also begin carrying naloxone, as officers also commonly respond to calls for opiate overdoses.

The LPD received numerous other grants as well. Grant funding was used to support the department's National Night Out event in August and the Drug Awareness Event it co-hosted in October. Grant funding also supports traffic enforcement to keep motorists and pedestrians safe and training opportunities to ensure both sworn and civilian staff are well equipped to carry out the LPD's mission.



The LPD's Deputy Ryan speaks to the inaugural First Line Leadership Training class at Middlesex Community College. The 8-week course taught front line supervisors at the LPD and several other local departments about leadership styles, how to effectively manage others, evidence-based practices in policing, accountability, and performance management. The LPD developed the course with assistance from Middlesex Community College and Dr. Brenda Bond of Suffolk University. A Smart Policing grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance funded the development of the course.

CRIME IN THE CITY OF LOWELL

National Incident Based Reporting System

During 2014, the City of Lowell reported a total of 9,012 total offenses per National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) standards. This figure represents a 12% decrease in overall activity from 2013, which recorded 10,286 total offenses. Specifically, Group A Offenses, which include the more serious crimes, decreased by 10%. The decrease in Group A offenses follows a nationwide trend of a reduction in more serious crime. Group B Offenses, which include arrests being made for incidents such as Disorderly, Driving Under the Influence, Drunkenness, etc., decreased by 24%. Please note that while Group A Offenses capture all offenses, Group B Offenses only capture those where an arrest was made.

Robberies have seen a 5% decrease from 2013 to 2014. Burglaries (-16%), Vandalism (-27%), Weapon Law Violations (-5%) Stolen Property Offenses (-39%), Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories (-28%), and All Other Larceny (-27%) have also decreased. Although there were sprees of incidents of Theft from a MV throughout the year, overall it showed a decrease of 32 percent. Increases to note for Group A Offenses included Homicide (50%), Aggravated Assault (13%), Simple Assault (15%), Theft from a Building (53%), Shoplifting (6%), Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling (200%), Prostitution (160%), Embezzlement (133%), and Wire Fraud (700%).

Table 1: Group A Offenses*

	2013	2014	Percent Change
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter	4	6	50%
Kidnaping/Abduction	12	11	-8%
Forcible Rape	35	26	-26%
Forcible Sodomy	4	10	150%
Sexual Assault With An Object	1	2	100%
Forcible Fondling	48	33	-31%
Robbery	192	183	-5%
Aggravated Assault	328	372	13%
Simple Assault	1405	1611	15%
Intimidation	344	409	19%
Arson	18	17	-6%
Extortion/Blackmail	13	9	-31%
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	774	654	-16%
Purse-snatching	21	6	-71%
Shoplifting	243	258	6%
Theft From Building	158	241	53%
Theft from a Coin Operated Machine	8	4	-50%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	961	658	-32%
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	229	164	-28%
All Other Larceny	719	523	-27%
Motor Vehicle Theft	325	312	-4%
Counterfeiting/Forgery	85	70	-18%
False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence man	102	107	5%
Credit Card/Automatic Teller Fraud	174	155	-11%
Impersonation	102	90	-12%
Wire Fraud	0	7	N/A
Embezzlement	9	21	133%
Stolen Property Offenses	96	59	-39%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	1502	1097	-27%
Drug/Narcotic Violations	277	305	10%
Drug Equipment Violations	4	5	25%
Statutory Rape	3	1	-67%
Pornography/Obscene Material	8	8	0%
Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	1	3	200%
Prostitution	5	13	160%
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	82	28	-66%
Weapon Law Violations	134	127	-5%
Group A Total	8426	7605	-10%

All Group B Offenses decreased from 2013 to 2014. Some Group B decreases to note were Driving Under the Influence (3%), Disorderly Conduct (32%) and Drunkenness (78%).

The following subsections provide more detail on particular types of crime in Lowell in 2014.

Table 2: Group B Offenses*			
	2013	2014	Percent Change
Disorderly Conduct	212	144	-32%
Driving Under The Influence	62	60	-3%
Drunkenness	23	5	-78%
Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	54	33	-39%
Liquor Law Violations	39	36	-8%
Trespass of Real Property	105	74	-30%
All Other Offenses	1365	1055	-23%
Group B Total	1860	1407	-24%

* The crime statistics reported in Tables One and Two are subject to change based on the completion of investigations that remained open as of 12/31/2014.

Homicide

There were six homicides in Lowell in 2014, resulting from five total incidents (one was a double homicide). This is up from four in 2013. Four of the homicides involved the use of knives, while the double homicide involved the use of a firearm. Two of the incidents occurred in the Sacred Heart neighborhood (including the double homicide), two occurred in the Lower Highlands, and one occurred in the Highlands. The LPD was able to make arrests in all five cases

Table 3: Homicide by Weapon					
	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Firearm	0	2	2	0%	1.3
Stabbing	0	1	4	300%	1.7
Other	0	1	0	-100%	0.3
Total	0	4	6	50%	3.3

Rape

Table 4: Forcible Rape					
	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2012-2013	3 Year Avg.
Forcible Rapes	37	33	26	-21%	32

There were 26 rapes in Lowell in 2014, which is a 21% decrease from 2013. This continues a downward trend in rapes after an 11% decrease in 2013. The average age of rape victims was 29.

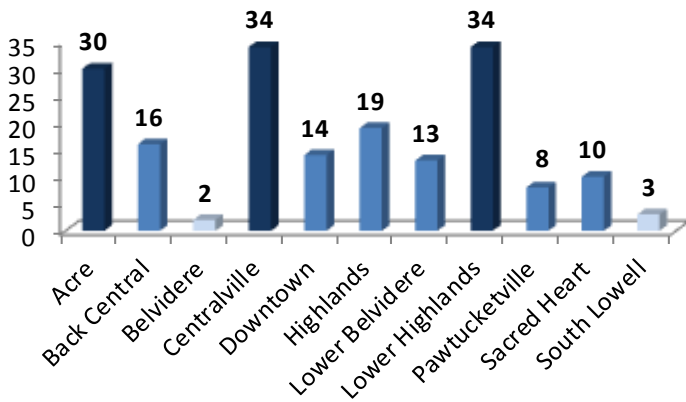
There were six victims who were under the age of 18, which is a 25% decrease from the eight juvenile victims in 2013.

Robbery

During 2014, the City of Lowell had 183 robberies reported, of which 133 were armed and 50 were unarmed. This shows a 5% decrease from 2013. Of all robberies in the city, 64% (117) were street robberies and 36% (66) were commercial robberies. This represents a 22% increase in commercial robberies and a 16% decrease in street robberies. Five of the 66 commercial robberies were of delivery drivers from various restaurants throughout the city. Thirteen percent of the street robberies occurred inside a residence.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Firearm	44	52	86	65%	61
Knife	31	41	33	-20%	35
Other	12	24	14	-42%	17
Unarmed	88	76	50	-34%	71
Total	175	193	183	-5%	184

Figure 1: Robberies by Neighborhood

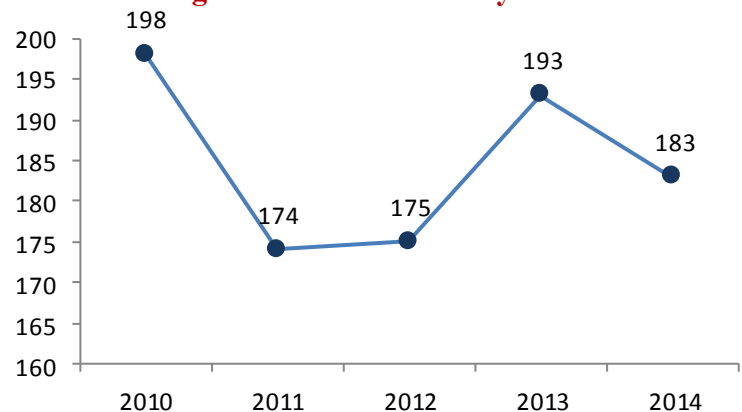


Twenty-eight percent (51) of robberies were cleared by an arrest or court proceedings. This is consistent with the clearance rate in 2013 (28%). In regards to the weapons used during armed robberies, firearms accounted for 65% (86), knives/ cutting instruments were 25% (33), other dangerous weapons made up 11% (14). The use of firearms in robberies was up 65% from 2013. Armed robberies as a whole increased 14% and unarmed robberies decreased by 34 percent. This follows a trend of increasing armed robberies and decreasing unarmed robberies the City has seen in recent years.

Additional notes on robberies in 2014:

- 1% of robberies were domestic-related.
- 8% of robberies were confirmed to be drug-related.
 - ◊ All were street robberies; 40% occurred within a residence.
- 8% of robberies were possibly drug-related.
 - ◊ All were street robberies; 14% occurred within a residence.
- 9% of robberies were determined to be gang-related or possibly gang-related.
- There were 6 incidents classified as purse-snatching in 2014 (not included in robbery statistics) which is a 71% decrease from 2013.

Figure 2: 5-Year Robbery Trend



Aggravated Assault

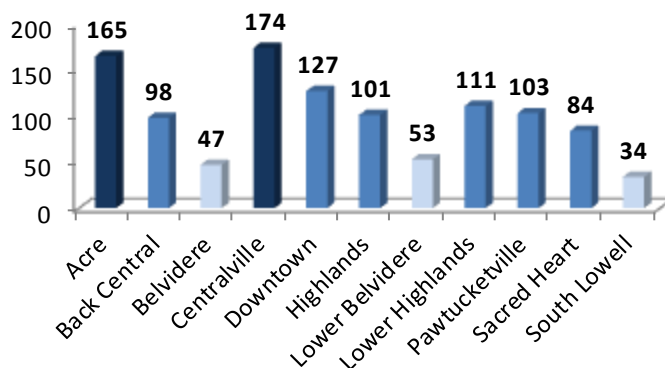
There were 316 aggravated assaults reported to the LPD in 2014. This is a 3% decrease compared to 2013.

There are six categories that the weapon used in an aggravated assault can fall under: firearm, blunt object (club, hammer, etc.), knife/cutting instrument (ice pick, ax, etc.), other dangerous weapons, personal weapons (hands, feet, teeth, etc.), and unknown. Knives and cutting instruments were the most common weapon used, accounting for 34% of all aggravated assaults. Firearms were used in 60 (19%) of aggravated assault. In 10 of these cases, the firearm was specifically identified as a BB gun.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Firearm	42	58	60	3%	53
Knife	124	118	107	-9%	116
Blunt Object	23	22	10	-55%	18
Personal Weapon	63	64	45	-30%	57
Other	61	47	82	74%	63
Unknown	0	17	12	-29%	10
Total	313	326	316	-3%	318

There was a large range in the ages of the victims, with the youngest victim being only seven years old and the oldest being eighty-two years old. The largest number of victims fell in the 18-29 year-old age range while the fewest victims fell in the 17 and under age range. The months with the most reported incidents were July (43), September (39), and August (31). March had the fewest reported incidents with 13, followed by December with 15. This follows the typical trend in which there are more aggravated assaults during periods when the weather is warm than when the weather is cold.

Figure 3: Vandalism by Neighborhood



Vandalism

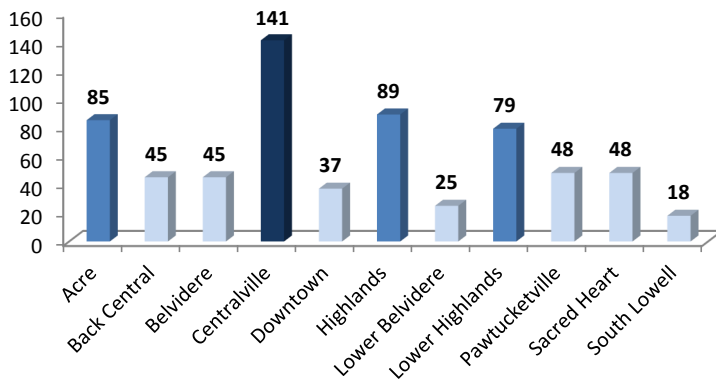
During 2014, there were 1,097 Vandalism incidents reported to the Lowell Police Department. This represents a 27% decrease when compared to 2013. Of the 1,097 incidents, 975 were listed as being Primary Vandalism, and 122 were listed as Secondary Vandalism (concurrent with another crime). There were 22 incidents that were listed as Tagging incidents. This is a decrease of 63% when compared to 2013.

Burglary

During 2014, the City of Lowell had a total of 660 burglaries reported. Burglaries decreased 15% when compared to 2013. Out of the total burglaries reported, 55% (366) of structures were forcibly entered, 29% (189) were unlawfully entered, 10% (64) were unknown entries, and 6% (41) were attempted breaks. Of the total burglaries in the City, 91% (601) were residential burglaries, 8% (54) were commercial burglaries, and burglaries from schools (1), government buildings (2), and churches (2) each accounted for less than 1 %.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Forcible Entry	510	467	366	-22%	448
Unlawful Entry	213	177	189	7%	193
Unknown Entry	84	84	64	-24%	77
Attempted Breaks	32	46	41	-11%	40
Total	839	774	660	-15%	758

Figure 4: Burglaries by Neighborhood



Centralville had the most burglaries, accounting for 21% (141), followed by the Acre (85) and the Highlands (89) each with 13%. The Lower Highlands closely followed with 12% (79). The remaining neighborhoods each accounted for less than 10% of the burglaries. Please note that burglaries have decreased by 38% in the Acre and 35% in Lower Belvidere compared to 2013.

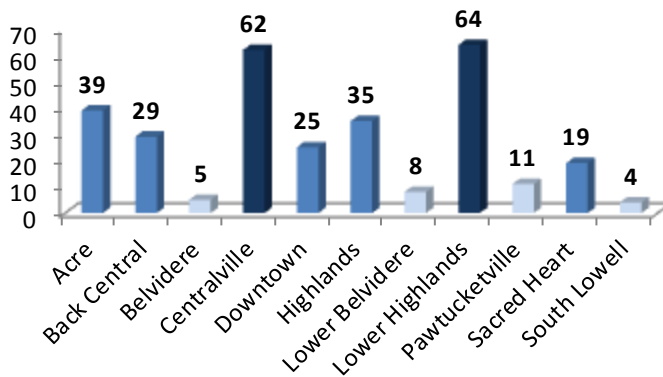
In 2014, there was a 14% clearance rate for burglaries. Of the cases that were cleared, 9% (59) resulted in an arrest and 5% (31) resulted in the application of a warrant. Of the items stolen, the most prevalent item targeted was electronics which accounted for 31% (207) of stolen items. Money was taken 12% (82) of the time, and jewelry followed with 9% (60). Tools were stolen 3% (17) of the time and copper/metals accounted for 2% (13). Firearms were stolen 1% (4) of the time. Miscellaneous items accounted for 4% (28). In 31% (207) of the burglary cases nothing was stolen, and in 2% (11) it was unknown what was stolen at the time. Other items that were stolen include alcohol, bicycles, drugs, prescription medication, safes, motor vehicles, and identification. There were two repeat offenders in 2014, with each being responsible for two burglaries.

Gang Crime

In 2014, there were a total of 301 gang related crimes reported to the police in the City of Lowell. Of the 301 gang related crimes reported, 10% (29) were confirmed to be directly related to the pursuit or furtherance of a gang. Compared to 2013, gang related crimes have decreased 23 percent. Violent crimes accounted for the most gang related crimes with 45% (137), followed by other crimes with 39% (116), and property crimes with 16% (48). There was one gang related homicide in 2014. Firearms were used in 47 gang related incidents and the LPD recovered 8 illegal firearms from suspected gang members or associates.

Table 8: Gang Crime by Category			
	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014
Violent	163	137	-16%
Property	65	48	-26%
Other	161	116	-28%
Total	389	301	-23%

Figure 5: Gang Crime by Neighborhood



Forty-seven percent (142) of gang related crimes were cleared by an arrest with a total of 180 arrests made. The higher number of arrests is due to multiple offenders being arrested for certain incidents. Twenty-two percent (66) of the gang related crimes were cleared by a warrant/summons. There were also 66 warrant arrests made of gang members and/or associates. These are not included within the gang related crime numbers as they are a direct result of a prior incident.

The average age of gang members and associates that were listed as offenders was 24, with the majority of offenders ranging between the ages of 17-29. All of the offenders were male. In regards to race 32% (86) of offenders were Hispanic, 29% (78) were Caucasian, 28% (73) were Asian, and 11% (29) were Black. The average age of gang members and associates listed as victims was 25. Only 1% of victims were female. In regards to race, 44% (10) of victims were Asian, 30% (7) were Caucasian, 22% (5) were Hispanic, and 4% (1) were Black.

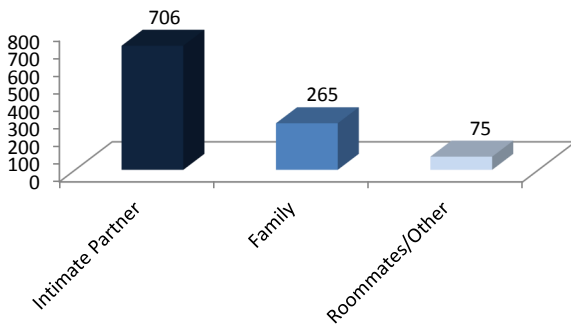
Domestic Violence

There were 3,306 domestic incidents reported in the City of Lowell in 2014. The majority of these incidents (48%) were domestic arguments (1,593). Simple assaults accounted for 23% (746) of domestic incidents and aggravated assaults accounted for 9% (300). One percent of reports were unfounded. The remaining 15% (501) is comprised of a variety of crimes including stalking, burglaries, disturbances, harassment, intimidation of a witness, threats, larcenies, robberies, unwanted persons, vandalism, 51 A reports, etc. There was also one domestic homicide that occurred during 2014, which is counted under aggravated assaults for this report.

Of the 1,046 domestic assaults 71% were simple assaults (746) and 29% were aggravated assaults (300). Compared with the annual statistics from 2013, overall domestic assaults decreased by 6% in 2014. Aggravated assaults decreased by 8%.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Simple	868	793	746	-6%	802
Aggravated	332	325	300	-8%	319
Total	1200	1118	1046	-6%	1121

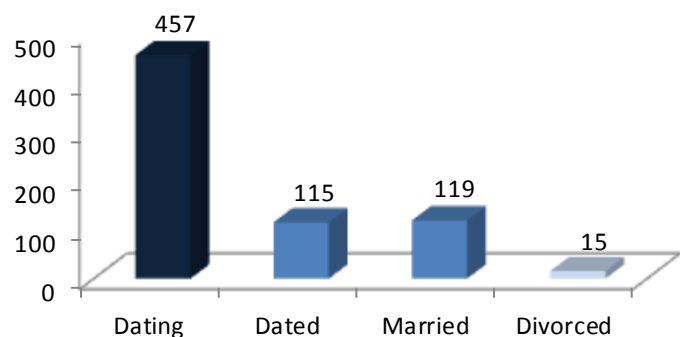
Figure 6: Domestic Assaults by Relationship Type



Ninety-seven percent of domestic assaults were cleared by arrest, warrant, or court proceedings. Officers made arrests in 672 of the 1,046 assaults, or in 64% of the cases. Dual arrests were made in seven incidents because officers deemed both parties to be aggressive and combative towards each other. Complaint applications requesting either a warrant or a hearing were sought in 335 incidents or 32% of the time. The 3% of un-cleared domestic assault cases can primarily be attributed to an officer not receiving enough identifying information (i.e. correct name, DOB, address, etc.) on the suspect, either because the victim did not know it or is refusing to cooperate.

Females were victimized in 75% of the assaults while males were victimized 25% of the time. Seventy-three percent of the assaults were committed by males, while females were the combatants 27% of the time. There were three incidents where the gender of the aggressor was not identified. There were 148 offenders who were responsible for two or more incidents. Thirty-one of those offenders were responsible for three or more incidents.

Figure 7: Intimate Partner Assaults by Relationship Type

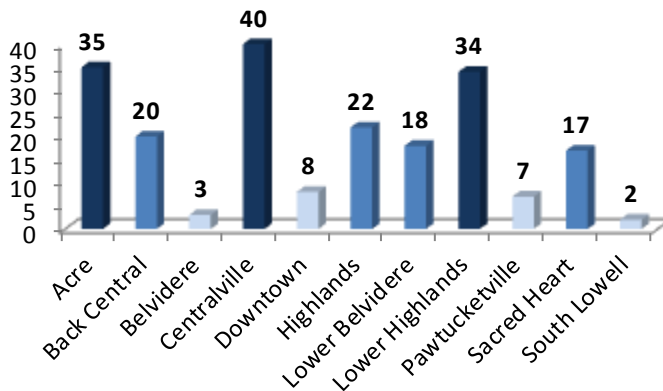


Firearm Crime

There were 206 crimes involving firearms in Lowell in 2014, which is a 34% increase from 2013. The LPD made 88 arrests for crimes involving firearms. Officers recovered 60 firearms, more than double the number recovered in 2013 (29). Thirty two percent of those found to be illegally in possession of a firearm were suspected gang members. Thirty-four percent of the firearms recovered had a drug nexus. Firearms were primarily recovered by the search of a residence (29), motor vehicle search (14), found at an outside location (i.e. thrown from a vehicle or hidden; 8), or the search of a person (5). Four firearms were recovered as part of federal investigations.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Homicide	0	2	2	0%	1
Armed Robbery	35	57	84	47%	59
Aggravated Assault	32	32	40	25%	35
Shots Fired	40	43	56	30%	46
Unlawful Possession	26	18	23	28%	22
Unlawful Sale	0	0	2	N/A	1
Total	133	152	206	36%	164

Figure 8: Firearm Crime by Neighborhood



Of the five homicide incidents in Lowell in 2014, there was one that involved the use of a firearm, which resulted in two deaths. The defendant is a member of the Asian Boyz gang from Rhode Island who had recently moved to Lowell. The motive is currently unknown. There were 15 non-fatal shootings in Lowell in 2014, a 35% decrease from 2013. Ten (67%) of the non-fatal shootings were gang-related.

There were 294 calls for service for reports of gunshots, resulting in 230 reports being filed by officers. of these reports, 77 were verified as shots fired (meaning officers were able to confirm that a firearm was discharged), which is a 15% increase compared to 2013. Of these cases, 21 occurred during the commission of another crime and 56 did not.

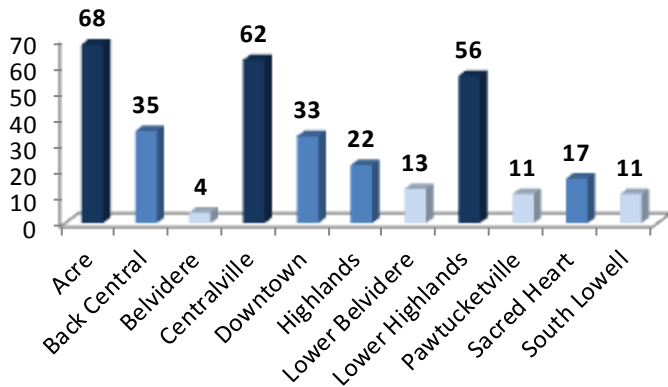
Figure 8 shows the breakdown of firearm crime by neighborhood. The breakdown is similar to that of previous years, with the exception of an increase in firearm activity in Lower Belvidere, which went from having approximately 4% of all firearm crime in the City in 2013 to nearly 9% in 2014. The Acre had the most aggravated assaults by means of a firearm with nine. The Lower Highlands had the largest number of armed robberies (18). Centralville had the most incidents of verified shots fired (15) and the most firearms recovered (6).

Drug Arrests

There were 332 drug incidents in Lowell in 2014, an 18% increase from 2013. The 332 incidents led to 331 arrests (some incidents led to more than one arrest). Arrests for Class A drugs (which include heroin and other opiates) were most common, representing 34% of drug arrests. Class B drugs (cocaine and prescription opiates such as oxycodone) were next most common at 31 percent. The majority of drug arrests were for illegal possession (51%), while illegal distribution was charged in 41% of cases. Trafficking charges represented 4% of drug arrests and miscellaneous other charges made up the remaining 4 percent.

	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Possession	164	135	169	25%	156
Distribution/Trafficking	218	160	148	-8%	175
Other	35	11	12	9%	19
Total	417	306	329	8%	351

Figure 9: Drug Arrests by Neighborhood



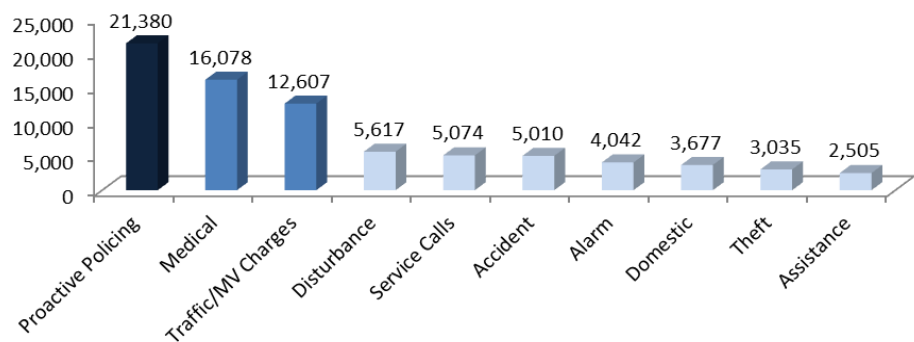
The Acre had the most drug incidents with 68, followed by Centralville (62) and the Lower Highlands (56). Belvidere had the fewest drug incidents with four. As far as arrests, Centralville had the most with 63, followed by the Lower Highlands (52) and the Acre (51). The number of arrests does not always match the number of incidents as not every incident leads to an arrest, while some incidents lead to more than one arrest.

Computer-Aided Dispatch

The LPD uses a Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system to dispatch officers to handle any situations that arise. This includes both calls for service from residents and officer-initiated calls. There were a total of 104,219 entries into the CAD system in 2014. Out of these, 4,994 did not require an officer to be dispatched due to a confirmed 911 misdial, or receiving more than one call for the same incident.

The majority of calls (42%) came during Platoon 3, which is from 3:30 p.m. to 11:29 p.m. Platoon 2 (7:30 a.m. to 3:29 p.m.) accounted for 33% and Platoon 1 (11:30 p.m. to 7:29 a.m.) accounted for 25% of CAD entries throughout the year.

Figure #10: CAD Entries by Type



DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW

Family Services Unit

The Family Services Unit (FSU) is responsible for combating domestic violence in the City of Lowell. The Unit provides support and assistance to victims of domestic violence and their families. Civilian staff members help victims access services from local community organizations and assist them through any necessary court proceedings. FSU detectives investigate domestic violence incidents, in addition to tracking juvenile crime, crimes against the elderly, missing and runaway youth, and sexual assaults. The FSU also participates in the Greater Lowell Evaluation and Advocacy Network (GLEAN), which is comprised of numerous agencies dedicated to ending domestic violence. GLEAN meets once a month to evaluate recent domestic violence cases and identify those that have a high risk of leading to lethal violence. These cases are prioritized, with the offender being targeted for arrested and prosecution and the victim given access to vital services.

The FSU also participates in numerous community meetings and events. In 2014, these included:

- White Ribbon Day at City Hall
- National Night Out
- Bike Safety Rodeo
- LPD Station tours for newly arrived immigrants

The Family Services Unit can be contacted at (978) 674-4502. Residents are encouraged to contact the FSU if they, or someone they know, has experienced domestic violence and is in need of services, including emergency shelter or assistance with obtaining a restraining order.

Records Bureau

The Records Bureau handles all incident reports, subpoenas, and accident reports. They collect, organize, input and maintain all written reports, including incident, arrest, missing person, and stolen motor vehicle reports. In 2014, the Records Bureau handled 22,974 reports. The Records Bureau also handles all restraining orders and other court-related paperwork. They devote a significant portion of their time to responding to public requests for information and answering questions from citizens. The Records Bureau can be contacted at (978) 674-4508.



Officers at National Night Out in August

Professional Standards Division

The Lowell Police Departments Professional Standards Division investigates all complaints made toward individual officers and internal investigations within the department.

There were 51 investigations in 2014. Of the 51 complaints received, 10 had multiple officers listed for a total of 63 officers complained against. The most common type of complaint was misconduct (31, or 49%). Internal complaints accounted for 16 (25%) of the complaints, rudeness accounted for 15 (24%), and one complaint alleged harassment.

Of the complaints against officers:

- 3 were unfounded (allegations were baseless and without foundation)
- 7 were exonerated
- 3 were unjustified (actions of the accused were in compliance with law or in accordance with department policy)
- 4 were unsustainable (inadequate or lack of evidence);
- 2 were withdrawn/closed
- 8 were sustained (the accused committed all of the alleged acts)
- 2 were justified
- 34 were incomplete (still being investigated at the end of the year)

As shown in Table 12, there were 187 use of force reports filed by LPD officers in 2014. This is a 6.5% decrease from 2013. There were 189 resisting arrest incidents, a 3% increase from 2012.

Table 12: Use of Force and Resisting Arrest					
	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2013-2014	3 Year Avg.
Use of Force	220	200	187	-7%	202
Resisting Arrest	223	183	189	3%	198

Police Prosecutor's Office

The Police Prosecutor is responsible for preparing all court documents. He attends pretrial conferences and hearings, issues court notifications and cancellations, and screens all requests for warrants, summonses, and hearings.

In 2014, the Police Prosecutor's Office issued 4,577 court notifications, attended 816 clerk magistrate hearings, and attended 64 juvenile magistrate hearings.

Firearms and Licensing

The Firearms and Licensing detective issues temporary and permanent licenses for firearm permits, firearm identification cards, taxi and livery licenses, and permits for raffles, peddlers and hawkers. The Licensing Bureau also does fingerprinting for citizens. Table 13 shows how many of each type of license were issued or renewed, denied, suspended or revoked in 2014.

Table 13: Licenses and Permits by Type				
	New/	Denied	Suspended	Revoked
Taxi Licenses	108	3	0	0
Raffle and Bazaar Licenses	38	0	0	0
Canvas/Solicitation Permits	13	5	0	0
Peddler Licenses	9	0	0	0
Ice Cream Truck Permits	18	0	0	0
Firearms	467	27	16	1

The Licensing Bureau does taxi licenses and fingerprinting on Tuesdays. Applications for peddler licenses, ice cream vendor licenses, and raffle and bazaar licenses are accepted on a rolling basis. Firearm permits are done by appointment Monday through Thursday. Applications for firearm permits include a meeting, fingerprints, payment, a photo, criminal background check and mental health background check. The Licensing Bureau can be contacted at 978-674-1879.

Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit

The Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit (CAIU) collects, tracks, and analyzes all crime data from the City of Lowell. They use data to identify crime trends, locate hot spots, and uncover the underlying drivers of crime in the City. They also create intelligence bulletins on topics such as gangs, domestic violence, and officer safety information, which are disseminated throughout the department to ensure all officers are aware of this vital information.

The CAIU is vital to the LPD's bi-weekly COMPSTAT meetings, which keep all commanding officers up to date on crime issues throughout Lowell. At the meetings, crime from the most recent two week period is compared to the previous two weeks and the same two week period from the previous year. This allows commanding officers to review both short term and long term crime trends and adjust deployment strategies accordingly. The CAIU is instrumental in preparing crime data for presentation at COMPSTAT meetings.

In 2015, the CAIU will be decentralized as the final phase of the departmental reorganization. The purpose of this change is to improve the department's ability to engage in problem-oriented policing. Each of the two sectors created by the reorganization will have two Analysts dedicated to tracking crime trends. Sector Captains and District Response Teams will work closely with the Analysts to identify crime hot spots, recognize trends, and understand the underlying causes of crime in particular places. This will allow sector Captains to tailor their response to particular issues based on a deeper understanding of what is causing them. This will help the department ensure it is allocating its resources effectively and maximizing its impact on public safety throughout the City.

Lowell Police Academy

The Lowell Police Academy is a 24 week program that stresses the fundamentals of being a patrol officer. In order to be awarded a diploma, each student must demonstrate the required knowledge, skills, and abilities in each of the program's four major components:

- *Community*—focuses on problem solving and crisis intervention.
- *Law*—classes are taught in criminal, constitution, motor vehicle, juvenile, elder and civil law.
- *Tactics*—concentrates on patrol procedures, how to drive emergency vehicles, how to subdue, restrain and handcuff a suspect, and how to use a firearm.
- *Officer*—focuses on ethics, health and wellness, and physical training.

More than 60 Massachusetts police agencies have sent officers to the Lowell Police Academy over the years, including most local departments in Northeastern Massachusetts. A total of 55 student officers graduated from the Lowell Police Academy in 2014. Eight of the graduates joined the LPD. The remaining graduates joined other local police departments including Dracut, Tewksbury, Westford, Bedford, Lawrence, Reading, Somerville, Cambridge, Brookline, Chelsea, Weston, UMass Lowell, and M.I.T.



Chief Taylor with the LPD's 8 graduates of the Lowell Police Academy in November

Detention Section

The Detention Section is responsible for processing all offenders arrested each day within the City of Lowell. They fingerprint and photograph each arrestee and record a detailed property inventory of all individuals in custody. The Detention staff also works with the Criminal Investigation Section to run fingerprints to eliminate potential suspects. Additionally, Detention Attendants are required to fingerprint all sex offenders that come to the LPD to update their registration information.

In 2014, a total of 3,859 people were booked by the Detention Section. This represents a 16% decrease from 2013, during which 4,589 people were booked.

CONTACTING THE LPD

Non-emergency..... (978) 937-3200
Crime Stoppers Tip Line (978) 459-8477
Family Services Unit (978) 674-4502
Records (978) 674-4508
Professional Standards..... (978) 674-4507
Licensing Bureau..... (978) 674-1879
Traffic Division (978) 674-4505

In addition to the phone numbers listed above, the LPD can be contacted through its **MyPD** smart phone application. Just download the free application and select the “**Lowell Police Department**” as your default police department. The application allows you to keep up with the latest news and alerts from the LPD, submit tips which can include uploaded photos and GPS location, or commend an officer.



You can also follow the LPD on Facebook and Twitter.

In case of an emergency, always dial 911.

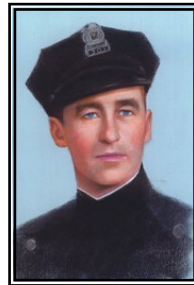
DEDICATION

The 2014 Annual Report is dedicated to those officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving and protecting the citizens of Lowell.

Patrick F. Leavitt
December 18th, 1941



George F. Pearsall
April 24th, 1957



John Joseph Winn
May 3rd, 1971



Christos G. Rouses
November 17th, 1978

